

Working to bring the creativity and artistic talent of Illinois' youth to Washington, D.C., Rep. Debbie Halvorson (IL-11) has announced a deadline of March 29<sup>nd</sup> for high school students and teachers to submit interest in participating in the annual Congressional Art Competition. Once students submit their interest in participating, they have until April 30

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to

submit their artwork

and all student release forms required by the U.S. House of Representatives.

"We have great students across our district who are incredibly talented artists, and I want them to show their gifts off to the entire nation," said Halvorson. "Our overwhelming response last year showed how unique our district truly is, and provided a source of pride for every constituent who walked through the halls of Congress. I look forward to supporting all of our great artists, and seeing their submissions."

The Congressional Art Competition began in 1982 to provide an opportunity for Members of Congress to encourage and recognize the artistic talents of their young constituents. Since then, over 650,000 high school students have been involved with the nationwide competition. The first place winner will be awarded a trip to Washington, D.C. to the official reception June 17, 2010 in Washington, D.C. at the U.S. Capitol, where their artwork will be on display with the work of Congressional contest winners from across the nation.

For more information on the Congressional Art Competition and the guidelines for submission, visit Congresswoman Halvorson's website by going to <http://halvorson.house.gov/studentart> , or call Halvorson's office at 815.726.4998.